



STATEMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

McKinney: Expansion strengthens Indiana's position as a leader in hardwoods

Note to the press: Please include the following statement from [Indiana State Department of Agriculture](#) Director, Ted McKinney, in your coverage of [Pike Lumber Company's announcement](#) to expand its operations in Ripley County, creating up to 15 new jobs by 2020.

INDIANAPOLIS (July 26, 2016) – “Indiana’s hardwoods industry is a catalyst for agricultural economic growth in the state, supporting 35,000 jobs and contributing \$16.6 billion to the Hoosier economy. By doubling production, Pike Lumber’s expansion will strengthen our position as a leader in hardwoods and confirms Indiana’s pro-growth policies are working.”

Indiana ranks first nationally in the production of wood office furniture, wood kitchen cabinets, hardwood veneer and several other wood products. The hardwood industry contributes an annual economic impact of \$16.6 billion to the Hoosier economy and has helped to create 35,000 jobs with an additional 86,000 careers in sectors that support the industry.

Click [here](#) or visit www.iedc.in.gov for a press release which includes additional information about the announcement.

###

ABOUT ISDA

The [Indiana State Department of Agriculture](#) (ISDA) was established as a separate state agency by the Legislature in 2005. The Director is appointed by the Governor and is a member of the Governor’s Cabinet. Administratively, ISDA reports to [Lt. Governor Eric Holcomb](#), who also serves as Indiana’s Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. Major responsibilities include advocacy for Indiana agriculture at the local, state and federal level, managing soil conservation programs, promoting economic development and agricultural innovation, serving as a regulatory ombudsman for agricultural businesses, and licensing grain firms throughout the state.

Media Contact:

Ben Gavelek
Communications Director
Phone: 317.690.3303
Email: bgavelek@isda.in.gov



Indiana State Department of Agriculture • www.isda.in.gov • (317) 232-8770